

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MBFR-04 ACDA-19 DODE-00 PM-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 H-03 ABF-01 IO-13 INRE-00 /117 R

66630

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: NATO COST SHARING

REF: (A) USNATO 4005

(B) USNATO 4095

1. AS MISSION AWARE, WASHINGTON FACRS CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES IN RESOLVING PROBLEM OF US CONTRIBUTION TO COSTS OF NATO COMMON FACILITY AND NATO PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO IT BECAUSE NO PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 1974 AND FY 1975 FOR THIS EXPENDITURE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT NATO DECISION TO GO FOR COMMON FACILITY ONLY FINALLY REACHED IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR. WE ARE PREPARED TO EXPLORE ALL POSSIBILITIES AS INDICATED BELOW.

2. AS FURTHER BACKGROUND, ACCORDING TO LONG ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLE KNOWN TO CONGRESS, ALL NATO COSTS CONTRIBUTED BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOURTEEN ARE FINANCED UNDER THE MILITARY BUDGET, WITH EXPENDITURES

WHICH ARE CLEARLY FOR THE CIVIL SIDE OF THE ALLIANCE FINANCED BY THE FIFTEEN. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, WE HAVE NEVER CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN 24.2 PER CENT FOR NATO FROM FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO STATE (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION). WE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN A HIGHER CONTRIBUTION UNLESS THE ACTIVITY IS CLEARLY ON THE MILITARY SIDE. WE REALIZE THAT COST SHARING FOR A NATO ACTIVITY CONNECTED WITH MBFR DOES NOT FIT THIS PATTERN, BUT WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO CONGRESS THAT WE ARE CONTRIBUTING MORE THAN 24.2 PER CENT FROM IO APPROPRIATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT WE MAY HAVE TO DO IT.

3. WE ASSUME THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED THAT ALL COSTS OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF PERSONNEL (SALARIES, TRAVEL EXPENSES, ET.) WILL BE FINANCED UNDER THE CIVIL BUDGET, WITH FRENCH PARTICIPATION (SEE PARA. 3 OF REF. A, AND PARA. 2 OF ERF. B). IF THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER THE CY 1973 AND 1974 FUND AVAILABILITIES AS INDICATED IN FY 1973 AND 1974 COLUMNS OF THE FY 1975 BUDGET SUBMISSIONS (BFRS. 260 MILLION FOR 1973 AND BFRS. 311.8 MILLION FOR 1974), WE WOULD FAVOR THIS SOLUTION. WE BELIEVE THAT FRENCH PARTICIPATION IS ONLY LIKELY IF THESE COSTS ARE CHARGED TO THE REGULAR CIVIL BUDGET. PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU BELIEVE THAT AGREEMENT ON THIS IS LIKELY. WE ALSO NEED A BETTER ESTIMATE OF THE COSTS INVOLVED, INCLUDING A BREAK-DOWN IF MISSION BELIEVES THAT SOME OF THESE COSTS CAN BE FINANCED UNDER THE CIVIL BUDGET WITH FRENCH PARTICIPATION, OR THAT OTHER COSTS WOULD HAVE TO BE IN THE SPECIAL BUDGET, WITH NO FRENCH PARTICIPATION.

4. THE FIRST REQUIREMENT IS A MORE SPECIFIC ESTIMATE OF ALL COSTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SPECIAL BUDGET.

5. AFTER RECEIPT OF INFORMATION REQUESTED, WE WILL FURTHER EXPLORE POSSIBLE SOURCES OF U.S. FUNDS. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE176726  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EUR/RPM: EREHFELD  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 94  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) USNATO 4005  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <21-Sep-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MBFR: NATO COST SHARING  
**TAGS:** PARM, NATO  
**To:** NATO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005